
Sec. 883.214. Gifts, tips and other benefits.

- a. No County officer or employee shall solicit, accept or agree to accept any gift, tip or other benefit for having engaged in official conduct which he or she was required or authorized to perform, and for which he or she was not entitled to any special or additional compensation.
- b. No County officer or employee shall accept or receive any gift or other benefit, or multiple gifts or other benefits from the same donor in a 12-month period, having an aggregate value of \$75.00 or more when:
 - (1) The gift or other benefit would reasonably appear to be intended to influence the officer or employee in the exercise or performance of his or her official duties;
 - (2) The gift or other benefit would reasonably be expected to influence the officer or employee in the exercise or performance of his or her official duties; or
 - (3) The gift or other benefit would reasonably appear to be intended as a reward for any official action on the part of the officer or employee.
- c. For purposes of this section, the terms "gift", "tip" and "other benefit" include anything of value, whether in the form of money, service, loan, travel, entertainment, hospitality, thing or promise, or in any other form. The value of a gift, tip or other benefit is its fair market value, determined by the retail cost of the item or a comparable item. The fair market value of a ticket entitling the holder to food, refreshments, entertainment, or any other benefit is the face value of the ticket, or the actual cost to the donor, whichever is greater.
- d. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this section shall not prohibit:
 - (1) Gifts made to the County;
 - (2) Gifts from a person with a family or personal relationship with the officer or employee when it is reasonable to conclude that the personal relationship, rather than the recipient's status as a County officer or employee, is the primary motivating factor for the gift;
 - (3) Gifts given on non-recurring special occasions, such as marriage, illness, or retirement, which are reasonable and customary;
 - (4) Unsolicited advertising or promotional material of little intrinsic value, such as pens, pencils, note pads, and calendars;
 - (5) Awards and plaques having a value of seventy-five dollars or less which are publicly presented in recognition of service as a County officer or employee, or other service to the community;
 - (6) Incidental meals and refreshments provided when a county officer or employee is a speaker or participant at a job-related professional, charitable, educational, or community conference, program or event;
 - (7) Gifts or benefits having a value of \$100.00 or less that are received by a County officer or employee serving in a capacity listed in Section 11 of the Domestic Relations Law for the solemnization of a marriage by the officer or employee at a place other than his or her normal public place of business or at a time other than his or her normal hours of business; or
 - (8) Contributions made in accordance with federal or state election law.

(L.L. No. 15-2021 , § 2)